

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 were allowed.

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

Claims 10-12 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claim 9. As requested, claims 10-12 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 9. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 10-12.

Please cancel claims 13 and 14 without prejudice.

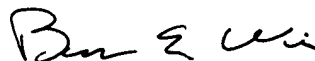
Claims 15 and 16 were allowed.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice.

Claims 18-20 were allowed.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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